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MINISTRY OF HEALTH

THE

Thurrock Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

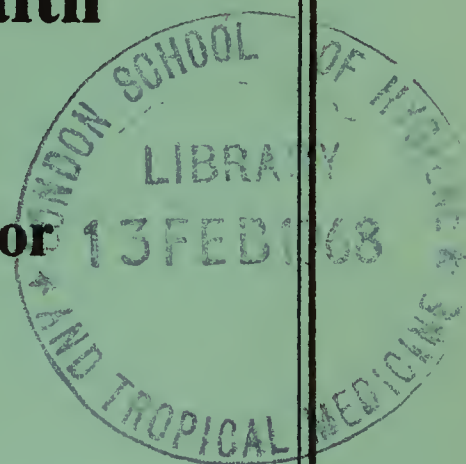
Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORTS OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

and the Public Analyst

For the Year 1966



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Thurrock Urban District Council



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GRAYS
HIGGINS LTD., PRINTING CONTRACTORS
1967

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as at 31st December, 1966)

Chairman: M. B. JONES

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. E. A. WHALLEY

Councillors: R. G. BALL

J. FLETCHER

O. MUNSON-BARKSHIRE

T. PRICE

R. H. PRIMETT

R. YOUNGMAN

URBAN DISTRICT OF THURROCK
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

T. D. BLOTT, B.SC., M.B., B.S.(DUR.), D.P.H., Barrister at Law
 The Medical Officer of Health is also Area Medical Officer for the
 Thurrock Division of the County of Essex

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. A. F. CROWLEY

Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. A. GOSLING, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. M. ANDERSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

Public Health Inspectors :

T. B. NUTTALL, M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

D. G. STRIPP, M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

A. G. BRIMBLE (1, 2)

J. L. MCGARRY, M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2)

L. H. ASH (1, 2)

G. R. DOVEY, M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

J. FOSTER, (1, 2, 3)

M. H. YOUNG (1, 2, 3)

(1) Indicates Certificates: R.S.I. and S.I. Exam. Jt.Bd.

(2) Indicates Certificate: Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

(3) Indicates Certificate: Smoke Inspection.

Public Analyst :

THOS. MCLACHLAN, A.C.G.F.C., F.R.I.C.

Veterinary Officers (Part-time)

E. DIXON, B.SC., M.R.C.V.S., M. A. CLARK, M.R.C.V.S.

Clerical Assistant—Public Health Department :

Mrs. D. SAYERS

Chief Clerk—Chief Public Health Inspector's Department :

S. V. EDWARDS

Trainee Public Health Inspectors :

J. MALTON, G. L. PAGE, Affil. R.S.H., R. ALBON

Clerical Assistants—Chief Public Health Inspector's Department .

F. T. SEDDON, Mrs. E. BROWNE, Mrs. E. CLAYDEN,
 Mrs. H. M. WARD

Rodent Officer: M. KNIGHT

Rodent Operatives: D. BAINES, A. G. HARRIS

Mortuary Attendants :

E. C. WHITBREAD, R. W. LENNIE

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
THURROCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my second Annual Report, it being for the Year 1966.

It will be seen in the figures given under Section "A" that the health of the district remains good and compares favourably with those for the Nation as a whole.

I am pleased to report that the Maternal Mortality Rate for the Year is nil. This gives great credit to all engaged in the maternity services both domiciliary and hospital. We are fortunate to have a new Maternity Hospital at Orsett ensuring that expectant mothers in this district can receive the highest possible care and attention.

Amongst notifiable diseases, the number of confirmed cases of Food Poisoning and Dysentery have remained low. Infective Hepatitis has proved very difficult to deal with and many cases have probably been overlooked. I am indebted to the tireless efforts of the Public Health Inspectors in visiting and supervising cases notified to the Health Department.

During the year Lectures were given in conjunction with the Public Health Inspectors and the Technical College to foodhandlers, but the response of the public has not been as enthusiastic as we would have wished and further courses are not, at the moment, being planned.

During the year I have been concerned with the problem of Cement Dust in the western areas of the Urban District and I regret that progress in controlling this nuisance has been very slow.

The need for extensive Health Education is becoming increasingly appreciated and every effort has been taken during the year to keep health matters before the public by lecturing to Voluntary Organisations and advertising through the Press, much interest having been engendered by the introduction of a Cervical Cytology Service involving the close co-operation between the County Council, local Hospitals and General Practitioners.

I am fortunate in having a Chairman who is ever ready with his help and support and I also have my Colleague, your Chief Public Health Inspector, who makes my work so pleasant.

I would like to thank all the Members of the Committee who have been so helpful in bringing health matters requiring my attention to my notice.

I am, Your obedient servant,

T. D. BLOTT, *Medical Officer of Health.*

Public Health Department, 34 Cresthill Avenue, Grays, Essex.
Telephone: Grays Thurrock 4641/4.

SECTION "A"

Land Area of the District (in Acres)	....	....	42,000
Population (Registrar-General's Estimated Mid-Year 1966)	...	...	120,790
No. of Inhabited Houses or Flats (according to Rate Books as at 31.12.66)	...	...	34,719
Rateable Value (at 31.3.66)	...	...	£7,397,014
Product of a 1d. Rate (at 31.3.66)	...	...	£30,018

The Urban District of Thurrock stretches along the northern bank of the River Thames, having approximately 18 miles of river frontage. The area adjoining the river is industrial and contains two of the chief centres of population — Grays and Tilbury.

The principal industries are the manufacture of cement, margarine, cardboard, footwear, detergents, nitric acid and chemical fertilisers. In addition there are the oil refineries at Coryton and Shell Haven, the oil storage undertakings at Thames Haven, Grays and Purfleet and the docks at Tilbury.

Inland, the principal occupation is agriculture and the district includes many market gardens and dairy farms.

A large number of the inhabitants travel daily to work in London.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS	Thurrock Urban District	England and Wales
Live Births:		
Number—(1,083 Males, 1,005 Females)	... 2,088	
Rate per 1,000 estimated	} (Crude) ... 17.29 (Adjusted) ... 17.12	
Mid-Year Home Population		17.7
Illegitimate Live Births percentage of total Live Births	... 5.17	

Stillbirths:	Thurrock Urban District	England and Wales
Number—(25 Males, 14 Females) ...	39	
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ...	18.34	15.4
Total live and stillbirths ...	2,127	

DEATHS

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year):

Number—(17 Males, 13 Females) ...	30	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	14.37	19.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate Live Births ...	13.13	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegiti- mate Live Births ...	37.04	
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks) (11 Males, 11 Females) per 1,000 total Live Births ...	10.54	12.9
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week) (8 Males, 9 Females) per 1,000 total Live Births ...	8.14	11.1
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ...	26.33	26.3

Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

Number of deaths ...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ...	0.0

All Causes:

Number—(531 Males, 406 Females) ...	937	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated	(Crude)	7.76
Mid-Year Home population	(Adjusted)	10.94
		11.7

SECTION "B"

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The staff of the Public Health Department have been enumerated at the commencement of this Report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Pathological Laboratory facilities are provided as in the past years by the N.E. Metropolitan Hospital Regional Board and whilst the main Laboratory is situated in Billericay at St. Andrew's Hospital, good facilities exist at Orsett Hospital in the area. In addition the area is served by the Public Health Laboratory at Southend-on-Sea where all examinations of milk, water, ice-cream, etc., are carried out. Biological examination of milk is undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory, London Road, Chelmsford. Virus investigations are also carried out by the Director of the Public Health Laboratory at Chelmsford. These Public Health Laboratories are administered by the Medical Research Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The ambulance service is administered centrally and is the responsibility of the Essex County Council.

Ambulance Vehicles	...	...	...	4
Dual Purpose Vehicles	...	...	...	6
Total cases conveyed	...	...	...	38,149
Stretcher cases	...	...	3,143	
Other cases	...	...	35,006	
Total Mileage	...	...	...	230,376
Total emergency cases	...	...	...	3,789

SERVICES PROVIDED BY ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

PROVISION OF NURSING APPLIANCES IN THE HOME.

On application numerous articles of equipment for the patients in their homes are supplied. Such articles include bedrests, bedpans, bed cradles, commodes, mattresses, wheelchairs in and out-door,

air cushions, air rings, etc. The main depot for distribution is at Whitehall Lodge, Whitehall Lane, Grays. Nursing equipment on loan for the sick, does not, as a rule, include specialised equipment for the permanently disabled.

HOSPITAL SERVICES are provided by the North East Metropolitan Hospital Regional Board at 3 hospitals.

1. Tilbury and Riverside General Hospital (Orsett Branch)
2. Tilbury and Riverside General Hospital (Tilbury Branch).
3. Thurrock Hospital—Diseases of the Chest. Tuberculosis.

A new out-patients' Department has been Built at Orsett Hospital to serve the district and a new Hospital is being built.

MOBILE MEALS.

The Women's Voluntary Services have a limited distribution of meals on certain days upon application. The Local Authority made an annual grant of £800 towards this service. I am indebted to Mrs. K. Smith, Acting Centre Organiser, for the following information.

Grays Area:—

No. of meals distributed ... 6,480

Approximate mileage ... 3,500

Stanford-le-Hope Area:—

No. of meals distributed ... 2,821

Approximate mileage ... 1,252

Aveley Area:—

No. of meals distributed ... 3,816

Approximate mileage ... 1,675

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

CLINIC PREMISES.

On the following pages will be found a list of the clinics serving Thurrock which includes the one Health Centre which was built in the year 1955.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

Ante-natal Clinic sessions were held during 1966 in six of the premises. The Midwives sessions are held mainly for booking patients for home confinements.

CHILD WELFARE SESSIONS.

There are 14 Centres in Thurrock where Child Welfare Sessions are held at which mothers attend to discuss their problems with the Health Visitors and Assistant County Medical Officers.

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS, MEDICAMENTS & NUTRIENTS.

The Ministry welfare foods and proprietary brands of medicaments and nutrients were distributed at the Child Welfare Sessions and, in addition, so far as the Ministry of Food items are concerned, voluntary distributors continue to provide this service for mothers in areas not easily accessible to the Child Welfare Centres.

DAY NURSERIES.

The two Day Nurseries in the Area, one at Palmer's Avenue in Grays and the other in London Road, West Thurrock, each catering for 30 places, continue to accept children mainly in the priority groups mentioned herewith:—

- Priority (1)—Children of sole wage-earners—i.e., widow, widower, a parent separated, divorced or deserted, unmarried mother, mother working on account of father's chronic illness.
- Priority (2)—Admissions recommended by Area Medical Officers for medical reasons, including cases arising from socio-economic circumstances irrespective of whether the mothers are in employment.
- Priority (3)—Admissions due to illness of either parent, including confinement of mother or emergency.
- Priority (4)—Children of mothers in employment highly essential to communal services, subject in each case to the approval of the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Health Area Sub-Committee.

The total attendances are given below with the attendances for previous years in brackets. The Nurseries were open for 254 days in the year.

	1964	1965	1966
March Quarter	(2482)	(3396)	3162
June Quarter	(3461)	(3203)	3635
September Quarter	(3326)	(3369)	3415
December Quarter	(3562)	(3778)	3659
Total	(12831)	(13746)	13871

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICE.

The number of Midwifery staff employed at the 30th September, 1966, was 19 full-time and 1 part-time. The rota system whereby the Midwives have alternate week-ends off duty continued throughout 1966.

During the year Domiciliary Midwives attended 976 births and 869 mothers who were discharged from hospitals after confinements before the 10th day. A total of 24,574 visits were made by the Midwives.

TRAINING OF PUPIL MIDWIVES.

A Training Scheme for Part II Pupil Midwives was commenced in the District as from 1st September, 1966, in conjunction with Orsett Hospital, and since this date Pupil Midwives have been placed in the care of our Domiciliary Teaching Midwives for District training at regular intervals.

DELEGATION SCHEME FOR DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES AND DISTRICT NURSES TO JOIN GENERAL PRACTITIONER GROUP PRACTICES.

A pilot scheme was inaugurated on 12th September, 1966, in which Domiciliary Midwives first became attached to General Practitioner Group Practices. A similar scheme was adopted on behalf of the District Nursing Staff which was first started during November, 1966. I am happy to say that these two Delegation Schemes have been very successful to date and our domiciliary service has generally welcomed the better liaison with the General Practitioner concerned.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948.

The number of persons and premises registered under the Act at the end of 1966 was as follows:

No. of persons registered	8
No. of premises registered	4

At the end of the year there were 173 children being cared for. As previously, Health Visitors have been asked to inspect the premises and to explain and discuss the standard required. The Chief Fire Officer has assisted in making an inspection to ascertain the need for fire precautions. Those in charge of the Nurseries and indeed the Child Minders generally were required to undergo a chest x-ray examination before a certificate of registration could be issued. Regular visits are made by the Health Visitors to the registered premises. There is no Daily Guardian Scheme in operation in the area.

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

1,038 school children received B.C.G. vaccination during the year.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS—CARE AND AFTER CARE

RECUPERATIVE HOLIDAYS.

39 persons went away on recuperative holidays where either general practitioners and/or hospital consultants so recommended.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

Arrangements whereby patients suffering from chest complaints can receive a pint of milk per day without charge on the

recommendation of the Chest Physician continued during the year there being 56 people receiving free milk at the end of 1965 and 24 new cases were recommended during 1966.

TUBERCULOSIS VISITING.

The Tuberculosis Visitors made 697 visits during the year and there were also 418 first examinations of contacts and 1,138 subsequent examinations of contacts.

CHIROPODY.

The treatment given at our clinics continues to be limited in scope by the shortage of qualified staff, at the end of the year there being only 1.2 Chiropodists engaged. Nevertheless it was still possible to include the Welfare Department premises in the programme of visits and this continued at Bennett Lodge and Leatherland Lodge where the full-time Chiropodist was able to attend one session per month at each home.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

During 1966, five full scale Health Education programmes were in progress in Thurrock Schools and in addition many lectures, films and demonstrations on specific Health subjects have been carried out throughout the year.

Over 100 films have been shown to Youth Groups—Young Wives' Clubs and other Voluntary Organisations.

In accordance with County Policy courses on preparation for childbirth using the psychoprophylactic method were held throughout Thurrock and 6 Health Visitors and Midwives have been trained to use this method. Facilities have been given for husbands to attend evening sessions.

Post-natal exercises courses have been held in the evening at Grays North Health Services Clinic and at Linford.

Indirect Health Teaching is practiced daily by the Health Visitors in the homes they visit and Health Education displays are shown at their clinics. As a result of public demand, many voluntary Play Groups have been started in Thurrock and courses on "The needs of the Pre-School Child" were arranged in conjunction with the Thurrock Technical College.

The Superintendent Health Visitor participated in nurse education for the South East Essex Hospital Managements Group and the Harold Wood Hospital. Health Visitors and District Nurses supervised the domiciliary practical work of the Student Nurses.

The Superintendent Health Visitor and the Group Adviser Health Visitor lectured at several courses run by the Thurrock Technical College.

The Field Work Instructor Health Visitor continued to be responsible for the practical training of Health Visitor Students from Barking Regional College of Technology.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The total number of cases provided with help during the year was 1,229 and the total number of hours worked by the whole-time equivalent of 98 Helps was 218,241.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

SCHOOL POPULATION.

The school population for Thurrock including Special Schools at the end of 1966 was 20,448.

ESSEX COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES CLINICS

District	Details of Clinic	Address
Aveley	Cervical Cytology Child Welfare Ante-natal Women's Welfare Immunisation and Vaccination Chiropody School Clinic Mothercraft & Relaxation	Health Services Clinic, Hall Lane, Aveley
Aveley Health Centre	Audiometry Child Welfare & Chiropody Relaxation Classes & Women's Welfare School Clinic Immunisation and Vaccination Midwives Booking Session Dental Ophthalmology Orthoptic Cervical Cytology	Health Services Centre, Darenth Lane, Aveley
Bulphan	Child Welfare Chiropody	Village Hall, Bulphan
Chadwell-St.-Mary	Cervical Cytology Child Welfare & Chiropody Midwives' Session Mothercraft & Relaxation Immunisation and Vaccination School Clinic	Health Services Clinic, River View, Chadwell-St.-Mary
Corringham	Child Welfare & Chiropody Immunisation and Vaccination Mothercraft & Relaxation	Memorial Hall, Corringham
	Cervical Cytology Midwives' Session	Village Hall, Corringham

District	Details of Clinic	Address
East Tilbury	Child Welfare Midwives Booking Session	"Rheidovale," Princess Margaret Rd. East Tilbury
Fobbing	Child Welfare Immunisation and Vaccination	Gardner Hall, Wharf Road, Fobbing
Grays	Cervical Cytology Child Welfare Ante-natal Women's Welfare Mothercraft & Relaxation Family Planning Immunisation and Vaccination School Clinic Audiometry Midwives' Session	Health Services Clinic, The Park, Grays
	Child Welfare Ante-natal Ante-natal Exercises Mothercraft & Relaxation Immunisation and Vaccination Chiropody School Clinic	Health Services Clinic, Stifford Long Lane, Grays
	Dental Chiropody School Clinic Ophthalmology Orthoptic	Glasson House Clinic, Off High Street, Grays
Horndon-on-the-Hill	Child Welfare School Clinic Immunisation and Vaccination	Community Hall, High Road, Horndon-on-the-Hill
Linford	Post Natal Exercises	Village Hall, Linford
Purfleet and West Thurrock	Child Welfare Ante-natal Immunisation and Vaccination Chiropody School Clinic	Health Services Clinic, London Road, West Thurrock
South Ockendon	Cervical Cytology Child Welfare Ante-natal Immunisation and Vaccination Chiropody Mothercraft & Relaxation	Health Services Clinic, 107 South Road, South Ockendon
Stanford-le-Hope	Audiometry Child Welfare Mothercraft & Relaxation Immunisation and Vaccination School Clinic Midwives' Session	Health Services Clinic. St. Margaret's Hall, Stanford-le-Hope

District	Details of Clinic	Address
Tilbury	Ante-natal Child Welfare Cervical Cytology Dental School Clinic	Health Services Clinic, London Road, Tilbury

HOUSING.

The Council have 10,071 Council Houses and in addition the former London County Council, East Ham Borough Council and West Ham Borough Council have built estates. Despite this there still remains a total number of 4,678 upon the waiting list for houses. The allocation of Thurrock Council Houses is dealt with upon a points scheme and the Medical Officer of Health recommends extra points upon medical evidence submitted on behalf of the patients. During the year under review 195 cases were investigated and points awarded.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF MANUAL STAFF.

The Medical Officer of Health medically examines entrants to the Council's Service and deals with medical questions arising in regard to examinations as to the fitness of an employee to remain in the Council's Service.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SECTION 47)

No action was taken during the year under the above Act.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD.

The South Essex Crematorium situated over the boundary of the district at Corbets Tey is carried on with the London Borough of Havering. The Medical Officers of Health of the constituent authorities act as Medical Referees and during the year the remains of 2,086 persons were disposed of.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE CITY AND PORT OF LONDON.

The Urban District of Thurrock contains Tilbury Docks, into which an enormous amount of shipping arrives and an Assistant Medical Officer of the Essex County Health Service working in the Thurrock district acts as Boarding Officer.

PUBLIC MORTUARY SERVICE.

212 deaths were reported to H.M. Coroner, Dr. Charles Clark. The total number of inquests held was 51, after a post-mortem in each case. There were 128 post-mortems without inquests and in 11 deaths there were neither post-mortems nor inquests.

The verdicts given at the Inquests consisted of 36 accidental deaths. There were 6 verdicts of 'took his/her own life,' and the remaining 9 inquests resulted in other categories, including 'open,' 'natural causes,' 'industrial disease.'

SECTION "C"

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

DISEASE		Notified	Confirmed	Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	27	27	—	—
Dysentery	...	14	2	—	—
Pneumonia (Acute and Influenzal)	...	51	51	7	—
Infective Hepatitis	...	20	20	1	—
Whooping Cough	...	93	93	—	1
Measles	...	324	324	—	—
Erysipelas	...	1	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	9	9	6	—
Food Poisoning	...	155	2	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	...	1	1	1	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE INCIDENCE ACCORDING TO
AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-2 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	25 yrs. over	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	—	5	7	7	2	5	1	27
Infective Hepatitis ...	—	—	1	4	1	9	16	31
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	10
Dysentery ...	1	1	—	5	1	2	4	14
Pneumonia ...	10	15	5	8	1	1	11	51
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough ...	7	30	21	32	2	1	—	93
Measles ...	10	97	93	114	8	1	1	324
Food Poisoning ...	7	24	5	17	9	28	65	155
Para-Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1

FOOD POISONING, &c.

The number of cases of Food Poisoning notified shows an increase for the year 1966, although the number of cases of Dysentery is more than halved. It must be remembered that most cases are notified as Suspected Food Poisoning and in many instances the diagnosis is not confirmed on bacteriological investigation. No outbreaks were reported.

It is the practice to take faecal specimens from each notified case of food poisoning or dysentery in which food handlers are involved (whether as patients or contacts) and if a positive result is obtained, three negative specimens are required before he or she is permitted to resume work. Such specimens are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Westcliff-on-Sea.

During the year 20 persons were excluded from work and in seven cases compensation for loss of earnings was made.

The following table shows the number of faecal and urine specimens or throat swabs submitted by the department during the year.

Taken From	Total	Negative	Positive		
			Staph. Aureus	Shig. Sonnei	Sal. Typhi- murium
Food Handlers	72	66	—	4	2
Non-Food Handlers	51	45	—	5	1

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry		Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-4 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-9 „	—	—	—	I	—	—	—	—
10-14 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-19 „	—	I	—	I	—	—	—	—
20-24 „	I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
25-34 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-44 „	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-54 „	6	I	—	I	—	I	—	—
55-64 „	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65-74 „	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 up-wards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	20	4	I	3	—	I	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATH

20

CAUSES OF DEATH	SEX	Total all ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 1 Year	AGE IN YEARS									
					1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75 and over	
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
2. Syphilitic Disease	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Whooping Cough	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	6	—
	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—
6. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	10	16	4	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—
7. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	5	5	6	—
8. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	1	—
9. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	59	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	11	12	14	19	—
	F	44	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	5	14	9	10	—
10. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	5	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
11. Diabetes	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
12. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	8	15	18	—
	F	54	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	10	15	24	—
13. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	145	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	16	47	44	37	—
	F	83	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	12	34	28	—

**Report of the
Chief Public Health Inspector**

SECTION "D"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY.

The principal water supply of the area is provided by South Essex Waterworks Company, the vast majority of the premises in the district being served thereby. A small part of the area at Langdon Hills is served by the Southend Waterworks Company.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year and is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

No. of samples taken and submitted for bacteriological examination: —

(a) From Public Mains	...	...	...	22
(b) From Wells, etc.	...	...	...	3

No. of samples taken and submitted for chemical examination: —

(a) From Public Mains	...	...	...	4
(b) From Wells	...	...	...	1

All samples from the public mains were satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically but one bacteriological sample of well water was unsatisfactory. The sample showed a fairly high general count with coliforms and faecal coli. The farmhouse served by this well is some 250 yards from the nearest main and efforts to make a connection have not yet been successful. The question of a grant is now being considered.

No. of dwellinghouses supplied from public water mains direct	...	...	34,696
Estimated population served	...	...	120,710
No. of houses supplied from public water mains supplied by standpipes	...	...	20
Estimated population served	...	...	70
No. of houses served by wells or stored rainwater	...	...	3
Estimated population served	...	...	10

Those properties supplied by standpipes refer to premises forming part of the Dunton Hills Estate. The laying of water mains would be very expensive and moreover, it is thought that some of the land will revert to agriculture in the not too distant future.

The three remaining houses supplied by wells are situated in the more remote rural portion of the area where the cost of providing a mains supply is very expensive. In addition there are two wells at one of the oil refineries, the water from which is used for drinking and domestic purposes.

METEOROLOGICAL DETAILS.

Total amount of rain which fell during the year	22.37 ins.
Number of days on which rain fell	158
Heaviest rainfall on any one day (April 19th) ...	0.63 ins.
No. of hours of sunshine	1,329

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There were no significant extensions to the sewage disposal works during the year.

The Linford Sewerage Scheme has now been completed.

The Council have now approved the Orsett Sewerage Scheme which comprises the resewering of Orsett Village and the provision of sewers in Baker Street and Heath Road. The scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for loan sanction.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The principal river in the area is the Thames, on the north bank of which the Thurrock Urban District stands. In addition, the Mardyke rises above Bulphan and Orsett Fens and discharges into the Thames at Aveley. There are in addition, various small tidal streams which also discharge into the Thames.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There were 750 cesspools and 342 pail closets in the area at the close of the year.

The number of cesspools abolished has been equalled by the number of new cesspools constructed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This is carried out by the Public Cleansing Department and no important change in general arrangements for the disposal and collection of refuse has taken place.

It is the policy of the Council to empty household dustbins weekly and such refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping on a site in Linford Road, Chadwell St. Mary. This site, is,

however, becoming filled and it is urgently necessary that further tipping sites be found. Consideration is being given to the pulverisation of refuse.

The Municipal Dustbin Scheme has worked satisfactorily during the past year.

Pail Closets are emptied weekly and until recently cesspools were emptied fortnightly. This service is in process of re-organisation and at present, cesspools are emptied when necessary subject to the proviso that no cesspool is emptied more frequently than once in fourteen days. This change has given rise to much criticism and it is to be hoped that, when the scheme is out of its "teething troubles" public disquiet will disappear.

REFUSE TIPS.

At the commencement of the year nine refuse tips existed—six for house refuse and three for industrial refuse. I am pleased to note that at the close of the year two tips were closed down, the sites having been filled.

Control over refuse tips is by means of planning conditions, together with the conditions laid down in the Third Schedule of the Essex County Council Act, 1933. Efforts are being made to extend the provisions of this Act and if Parliament approves, the powers of local authorities will be considerably strengthened.

On the subject of refuse tips in general, there is little I can add to my remarks in 1965. In my view, such tips are objectionable and can hardly fail to give rise to complaint if near residential property.

It is pleasing to note that no public complaint of nuisance from the Little Belhus tip was received during the year. I am, however, convinced that this was entirely due to the Council's action in permitting the disposal of polluted water via the sewer. The risk of nuisance from the site is always present and this possibility is aggravated by the tipping of thousands of gallons of liquid waste on land with a high water table and which becomes a quagmire in wet weather.

The Stifford Road site which adjoins the Belhus Estate, and which receives household refuse from the London Boroughs was the subject of several complaints during the year. These related to flies, rats and paper blowing about.

Daily visits are made to both these tips in the fond hope that nuisances will be reduced if not entirely prevented.

The Greater London Council are surveying the area with a view to establishing further refuse tips—a prospect which I view with apprehension.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are within the area, ten swimming baths as follows:—

Public	....	....	....	....	...	1
Private	....	....	....	....	....	2
Schools	....	....	....	....	....	7

The public bath at Blackshots Playing Field, which was opened in 1964, continues to prove a popular addition to the facilities in the area.

Its capacity is 220,000 gallons, with a four-hourly turnover.

The bath is 110 ft. x 42 ft. and slopes from 3 ft. to 12 ft. 6 ins. The cycle of operations is prechlorination, treatment with soda ash and alumina, pressure filtration, final chlorination followed by heating to 78°F and aeration.

The two private baths are situated upon premises of large industrial undertakings. They are of the open-air type and are provided with continuous circulatory filtration and chlorination units.

Of the seven school baths, three are of the “indoor” type with continuous circulatory filtration and chlorination units. The remaining four are “outdoor” baths open only during the summer and are mainly for tuition purposes—the cost of which was met largely by voluntary subscription. Although these are fitted with circulatory and chlorination units, they are of more elementary design and close supervision is necessary if a satisfactory water is to be maintained.

The total number of samples taken during the year was 51 all of which were satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one common lodging house in the area—situated at the junction of High Street and West Street, Grays—and this provides accommodation for 21 persons.

The premises are old, poorly constructed and with minimum facilities. They come within the area of Grays Central Redevelopment Scheme and will doubtless disappear when the scheme comes into operation.

Regular visits are necessary to ensure compliance with the regulations and during the year 5 such visits were made.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The area contains many large industrial plants situated along the river front and the department pays regular attention to factory chimneys with a view to ensuring that smoke is not emitted in such quantities as to infringe the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958.

There is an increasing tendency for coal-fired units to be converted to oil and of the 87 new furnaces notified over the past five years, 83 have been oil fired, one gas fired, one coal fired and two special types of furnaces for burning sawdust and wood shavings.

The tendency to prefer oil firing to coal is to be encouraged in the sense that grit emission is abolished and smoke much reduced—although, in the absence of proper control, smoke emission can be voluminous. However, oil firing can bring with it another problem—smut emission—and unless chimneys are properly lagged this can and does give rise to occasional complaint.

Unfortunately the emission of sulphur dioxide is not reduced and until a more economic process for the removal of sulphur from oil fuel is developed, the present policy of discharge by means of high chimneys must still be carried out.

Complaints regarding smoke emission from industrial chimneys are negligible and concern mainly a wood and sawdust-burning plant (the problem of which is still not satisfactorily resolved) and a tarmacadam installation. I am pleased to record that at one of the local hospitals (whose coal fired boiler plant frequently gave rise to smoke nuisance) new oil fired boiler plant has been installed.

ALKALI, ETC. WORKS.

The following works are now under the control of the Alkali Works Inspector and complete co-operation exists between him and this department: —

Cement Production	....	....	....	....	4
Synthetic Detergent Plant (bisulphite section)					1
Oil Refining, etc.	...	...	...	...	4
Electricity Production		...	...	...	3
Nitric Acid Production		...	...	...	2
Recovery of non-ferrous Metals			...	...	1
Ammonia	...	...	...	...	2
Chemical Manure	...	...	...	...	1
Acid Sludge	...	...	...	...	1

The two nitric acid plants utilise ammonia which is synthesised at one of the plants for conversion into nitric acid and from thence into ammonium nitrate and nitro-chalk for use as fertilisers. Both these plants are fitted with modern equipment for the catalytic reduction of tail gases and when a pale yellow discharge is seen, the gases are within the limits laid down by the Alkali Inspectorate. Usually, however, no discharge is visible and this speaks well for the efficiency of the equipment. It should, however, be borne in

mind that, when starting up the plant a brown discharge will be seen and is accompanied by an acrid smell. This is unavoidable since about an hour will elapse before the catalytic agent reaches operational temperature.

Two electricity generating stations exist (West Thurrock and Tilbury "A") and neither has given rise to complaint during the year. A third station (Tilbury "B") is in course of construction and part will come into operation during 1967.

So far as the Oil Refineries are concerned, no public complaint has been received, although a smell described as "onions" or "diesel oil" is discernible during weather conditions involving temperature inversion and when the wind is from the east or south-west.

Once again mention must be made of the cement dust nuisance—still the principal source of air pollution in Thurrock.

The Council became concerned at the increased dust deposit gauge readings during the months of July and August and the District Alkali etc. Works Inspector attended a meeting of the Public Health Committee when the question of the overloading of cement kilns was discussed. The view was also expressed that all electrostatic precipitators should be fitted with automatic recording apparatus and that the Inspector should make periodical night inspections. At the time of writing this report, these matters are being discussed with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

During the year under review delegates from Thurrock attended the First International Clean Air Congress in London and it was imagined in some quarters that they would return with the answer to the cement dust problem.

Discussions with a delegate from U.S.A. resulted in the Department obtaining the most recent data from the Lehigh Valley Air Pollution Control in Pennsylvania. This area is the only place in the world which produces cement on a scale comparable with that on Thameside but there the works are spread over an area of 35 square miles compared with 8 square miles on Thameside.

Deposits of dust are given in tons per square mile per month. During 1965 an average from eleven works in the Lehigh Valley was 43.4 tons as opposed to 28.8 in Thurrock. The highest reading in Lehigh was 80 tons compared with 36.6 in Thurrock.

While there are no grounds for complacency on Thameside it is significant that in the U.S.A. with its vast resources the problem is still unsolved—indeed, they appear to be less successful than here.

The Council have continued to be represented on the Thameside Joint Committee for the Abatement of Atmospheric Pollution which meets four times yearly.

INSTALLATION OF FURNACES AND CHIMNEYS.

(1)	No. of notifications of construction of new furnaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
	(a) Coal fired	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(b) Oil fired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
	(c) Gas fired	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	No. of applications for Prior Approval	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
	No. Granted	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

In all cases save one agreement was reached on the question of chimney heights.

The single refusal referred to the boiler house at a school the chimney height of which did not satisfy the Council.

It is unfortunate that Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, refers to buildings for which deposited plans are required and since County Councils are exempt from this requirement no effective control over chimney heights exists.

BYE-LAWS.

The Bye-laws made under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, have now been superseded by regulation M2 of the Building Regulations, 1965.

SMOKE CONTROL.

There was no progress in the extension of smoke control during 1966. This arose from the delay, owing to a legal technicality, in bringing into operation Area No. 4 which will now come into operation on 1st June, 1967.

The preliminary work on Area 5 is now in progress.

Particulars of areas now under smoke control are as follows:—

Area	...	...	...	...	3,266 acres
No. of Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	...	8,516
„ „ shops	...	...	...	...	97
„ „ schools	...	...	...	...	15
„ „ Industrial premises	...	...	...	...	16
„ „ miscellaneous premises	...	...	...	...	29

This means that 21.6% of dwellinghouses in Thurrock are under Smoke Control Orders.

MEASURING INSTRUMENTS.

Three deposit gauges are maintained by the Council and the monthly results are forwarded to the Thameside Joint Committee for the Abatement of Atmospheric Pollution.

The readings from these gauges for the year are as follows:—

Month 1966	Tons per square mile		
	Drums Site	Kennington's School Site	Ward Avenue Site
January	23.74	20.87	22.60
February	27.52	16.04	28.60
March	28.00	12.35	26.56
April	29.73	20.41	23.07
May	24.01	12.61	23.78
June	28.76	10.30	25.16
July	35.40	13.47	34.53
August	37.19	30.47	44.00
September	30.34	16.27	26.62
October	28.34	21.66	21.22
November	38.21	22.50	29.41
December	46.60	19.66	35.01
Average	31.49	18.65	28.96
Average 1965	36.64	19.04	30.87
„ 1964	31.93	18.74	29.15
„ 1963	27.45	14.08	21.57

These results include not only cement dust, but dust, grit and gritty particles from all sources.

Four combined Smoke/Volumetric instruments for the daily reading of smoke and sulphur dioxide are in operation. These are situated in Grays, West Thurrock, Stanford-le-Hope and South Ockendon.

The readings from these instruments were as follows:—

Mth.	GRAYS			BELHUS			STANFORD-LE-HOPE			WEST THURROCK		
	Smoke	S.O ₂	Micrograms/cu.M./Air Ratio S/S.O ₂	Smoke	S.O ₂	Micrograms/cu.M./Air Ratio S/S.O ₂	Smoke	S.O ₂	Micrograms/cu.M./Air Ratio S/S.O ₂	Smoke	S.O ₂	Micrograms/cu.M./Air Ratio S/S.O ₂
Jan.	144	146	0.98	86	131	0.68	107	159	0.67	131	108	1.21
Feb.	78	106	0.73	37	107	0.34	49	103	0.47	63	85	0.74
Mar.	107	165	0.65	56	132	0.44	69	136	0.51	85	171	0.50
Apr.	57	90	0.64	30	117	0.26	36	76	0.47	54	114	0.47
May	49	80	0.73	29	59	0.49	31	75	0.41	38	45	0.83
June	87	87	0.93	34	79	0.43	27	86	0.31	80	54	0.92
July	42	88	0.48	14	60	0.23	17	51	0.33	28	67	0.42
Aug.	40	74	0.54	20	66	0.31	25	60	0.40	26	49	0.53
Sept.	61	82	0.74	32	60	0.53	32	53	0.60	43	60	0.71
Oct.	59	76	0.78	45	65	0.69	43	67	0.64	66	62	1.06
Nov.	99	108	0.92	67	123	0.54	89	115	0.77	112	111	1.01
Dec.	88	210	0.42	65	160	0.41	75	145	0.52	106	194	0.55
Ave.	65	109	0.71	43	91	0.44	50	92	0.51	69	87	0.70
Ave.:												
1965	87	121	0.71	58	113	0.48	61	105	0.54	80	107	0.77
1964	103	131	0.75	69	124	0.50	80	123	0.57	126	164	0.76
1963	105	117	0.86	65	115	0.51	—	—	—	—	—	—
1962	90	117	0.73	47	120	0.42	—	—	—	—	—	—

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

In addition to the treatment of verminous premises (detailed elsewhere in this report) the Council assists occupiers of premises in the eradication of other pests, e.g. earwigs, ants and wasps, either by the sale of suitable insecticides or by disinfestation, for which a charge is made, the latter procedure being used in the case of wasps nests. The department would prefer not to carry out work of this nature as no public health problem is involved, but it is appreciated that wasps nests are sometimes difficult to destroy and the use of special apparatus is often necessary. During the year under review 27 nests were dealt with either by the use of cyanide or liquid insecticide.

When certain infectious diseases occur (e.g. Smallpox, Tuberculosis) rooms are fumigated with formaldehyde and the bedding removed for steam sterilisation to the Orsett Hospital.

The number of rooms so fumigated was 22 and in 1 case bedding was removed.

The department also assists members of the public in the clearing of blocked drains to private houses in cases where this can be done without detriment to normal duties. A charge of ten shillings is made for this service. This work is carried out by the Rodent Staff and it is very necessary that the important work of rodent destruction is not hindered by too many extraneous duties.

During weekends and public holidays an arrangement exists with the Engineer and Surveyor whereby the sewer staff deal with blocked drains.

In the year 1966, drains were cleared by the Public Health staff in 122 instances.

RODENT CONTROL.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Rodent Officer deals with all complaints regarding rodent infestations. Private dwellinghouses are treated without cost but trade premises are charged on a basis of total cost plus Establishment Charges. Estimates are not given unless requested, owing to the difficulty of determining how many visits are likely to be made before the premises are cleared.

Treatments are carried out at sewage works, refuse tips and to the Council's sewers.

Warfarin is used in connection with all premises and fluoroacetamide for the treatment of sewers.

The following table shows the work of the Rodent Staff during the year: —

	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	All Other Premises	TOTAL
1. Number of properties inspected as a result of:				
(a) Notification ...	39	564	64	667
(b) Survey under the Act ...	—	—	—	—
(c) Otherwise ...	—	1915	4886	6901
2. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 1) which were found to be infested by:				
(a) Rats } Major ...	9	—	—	9
} Minor ...	29	420	48	495
(b) Mice } Major ...	—	—	—	—
} Minor ...	1	144	18	163
3. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 2) treated by the Local Authority ...	23	559	102	684
4. Total treatments carried out incl. retreatments ...	23	563	102	688

The Council fully realise the importance of rodent control and have increased the staff from two to three and the number of vehicles is expected to be increased from two to three.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS.

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964, came into operation on 1st April, 1965, and requires all scrap metal dealers to be registered with the local authority. Section 85 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 is thereby repealed.

The previous register has now been revised and the number of dealers now registered is 48.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The number of licences to keep Pet Shops issued during the year was 8.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

No premises in the area are registered under the above mentioned Act.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

The authority for the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950—the Essex County Council—have delegated to the Council their functions regarding the licensing of boiling plants for animal feeding stuffs.

The importance of adequate boiling of waste food before feeding to animals or fowls cannot be over-emphasised for it is considered that failure to do this is responsible for some of the outbreaks of foot and mouth disease, swine fever and fowl pest.

The number of plants licensed during the year was 14.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

This Act requires establishments used for the boarding of cats or dogs to be licensed annually by the local authority.

The Council have appointed two qualified Veterinary Officers on a part-time basis to make periodic inspections of all establishments and to submit a report prior to applications for licences being considered. In addition routine inspections are made during the year.

During 1966 five boarding establishments were licensed by the Council.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964.

This Act came into operation on 1st April, 1965, and requires Riding Establishments to be licensed annually by the local authority.

The Veterinary Officers dealing with Animal Boarding Establishments have been appointed for the purpose of the inspection and licensing of these establishments.

During 1966, 7 establishments were licensed by the Council.

CHILDREN'S NIGHTDRESSES REGULATIONS, 1964.

These Regulations were made under the Consumer Protection Act, 1961, and requires that children's nightdresses shall be made of material which complies with the low flammability requirements specified in the Regulations.

A list of authorised laboratories has been published to whom samples may be sent by the local authority.

During the year 5 samples were taken all of which were satisfactory.

The operation of these regulations has come to a standstill since it has become impossible to purchase children's nightdresses made of any material other than nylon and this complies with the regulations.

NOISE ABATEMENT.

Complaints regarding noise were few but they fell into two groups—extraction fans and engineering workshops. The former were satisfactorily dealt with, the latter is much more difficult. Noises from engineering workshops arise from generators, grinding machines and the hammering of metal. In some cases these workshops are situated near to residential property and complaint is understandable. However, a remedy is not readily available and in one particular instance a solution has not yet been found.

So far as new industries are concerned the Planning Committee can be of great assistance by imposing conditions restricting the hours of work.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA					VISITS
Agricultural (Safety, etc.) Act	...	...	...	...	8
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	963
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	50
Caravans	...	...	...	...	1,127
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	104
Drainage	...	...	...	...	1,826
Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	...	4,101
Factories (Mechanical)	...	...	...	...	327
Factories (Non-Mechanical)	...	...	...	...	38
Fairs	...	...	...	...	4
Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	245
Food Preparation Premises (Hygiene)	...	...	...	...	553
Food Shops Inspection (Hygiene)	...	...	...	...	1,905
Food Vehicles	...	...	...	...	45
Heating (Fireguards)	...	...	...	...	2
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	...	18
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	54
Improvement Grants (Standard)	...	...	...	...	216
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	600
Licensed Premises (Hygiene)	...	...	...	...	250
Litter Act, 1966	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2,008
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	696

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA						VISITS
Mines and Quarries Act	...	...	...	...	...	4
Noise Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	31
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	64
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	56
Pet Animals, Boarding & Riding Establishments						116
Rat Suppression	...	...	...	...	...	461
Refuse Tips and Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	1,798
Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sampling—Food and Drugs	...	...	...	...	...	360
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	307
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	525
Nightdresses (Children's)				...	...	5
Swimming Bath Water	...	...	...	...	...	65
Mains Water	...	...	...	...	...	25
Well Water	...	...	...	...	...	3
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	110
Shops Act, 1950 (Records and Hours)	...	...	...	...	...	156
Slaughterhouses (other than Meat Inspection)	...	...	...	...	...	23
Smoke Control	...	...	...	...	...	1,066
Stables and Pigsties	...	...	...	...	...	15
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	82
Waste Foods Order	...	...	...	...	...	29
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	74
Works Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	94
Work Places	...	...	...	...	...	6

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Two courses on food hygiene for food handlers were held at Thurrock Technical College during the year.

The lecturers were the Medical Officer of Health and the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

All the students from both courses sat and passed the examination for the Certificate in Food Hygiene of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. Although these results are gratifying the lack of response to advertisement on the part of industrial caterers and the limited numbers attending have been so disheartening that it has been decided to discontinue for the time being.

Illustrated talks on "The Work of the Public Health Inspector" have been given on request to schools and various organisations.

SECTION "E"

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES.

No. of new dwellings erected during the year: —

By local authority	...	...	...	...	304
By other local authorities	...	...	...	...	Nil
By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	455

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES.

1. (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,278
(b) Number of inspections/re-inspections made for that purpose	4,101
2. (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head 1) inspected under Housing Consolidated Regulations	Nil
(b) Number of inspections/re-inspections made for that purpose	Nil
3. Number of dwellinghouses found to be unfit for human habitation, and not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit (excluding Clearance Areas)	8
4. Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those above) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	494

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority and their officers	415
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) *Housing Act, 1957—Section 9* ... Nil

(B) *Public Health Act, 1936.*

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring matters to be remedied ... 115

(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which matters were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) By owners ... 103

(b) By local authority in default of owners ... Nil

(C) *Sections 16 and 23, Housing Act, 1957.*

(i) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 7

(ii) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 4

(iii) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings not to use for human habitation were accepted ... Nil

(iv) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings to render fit were accepted ... Nil

(D) *Sections 17 and 18, Housing Act, 1957.*

(i) No. of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 3

(ii) Number of houses closed ... 1

(iii) Parts of buildings closed ... 1

CLEARANCE AREAS.

Housing Act, 1957—Section 42.

During the year three Clearance Orders involving 25 houses were submitted for confirmation but all have been the subject of appeal and a Hearing is to take place in 1967.

The properties in 3 clearance areas in Grays involving 26 houses, were demolished and the sites cleared, the occupants having been rehoused.

During the current five year programme of Slum Clearance the Council hope to deal with at least 150 houses.

Properties in Grays South are gradually being purchased by the Council as a preliminary step towards the redevelopment of that area.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS AND COMPULSORY IMPROVEMENT OF DWELLINGHOUSES.

The work during the year under this heading is summarised as follows: —

No. of applications received: —

(a) For Discretionary Grants ...	...	...	...	16
(b) For Standard Grants ...	...	...	...	59

No. of applications granted:—

(a) For Discretionary Grants	...	...	...	...	15
(b) For Standard Grants	...	...	...	...	62

The Council have now finalised their arrangements for the operation of Part II of the Housing Act, 1964, relating to the Compulsory Improvement of Dwellinghouses. A special Committee has been set up and a Public Health Inspector appointed to take charge of this work. It is hoped that during 1967 Improvement Area procedure will be well under way.

RENT ACT, 1957.

This Act has been in operation some 9½ years and permits, with few exceptions, rents to be increased automatically, subject to the tenant's right to object by the service of a notice on the landlord listing those defects of repair which he considers should be remedied. It will be seen that no use has been made of this Act during the past three years.

Details of its administration are as follows: —

[illegible]

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

16 premises were found to be infested with vermin as follows:

Bugs	1 premises (involving 5 rooms)
Fleas	5 premises (involving 15 rooms)
Cockroaches	5 premises (involving 10 rooms)
Miscellaneous Insects	5 premises

OVERCROWDING.

During the year 56 visits were made in connection with complaints of overcrowding. Where overcrowding was established, the matter was referred to the Housing Department and if the family concerned were applicants for a Council house an allowance can be made in the "Points" Scheme.

In this connection a greater degree of priority is given to those cases in which overcrowding arises from natural increase in the family.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION.

I do not think that the problem of multi-occupied houses is serious in Thurrock. By "multi-occupied houses" I mean, not houses which have been let off into flats for occupation by two families, but houses in which various rooms are let off to families or individuals. The number of cases which have come to light is very small and it is difficult to deal with this situation when it arises. To require a family to leave the house does not solve the problem save in that particular house since they presumably move to another address with the possibility that this house becomes overcrowded or is without proper amenities.

There is reason to believe that some houses occupied by immigrants are overcrowded but this is often difficult to establish and the task is made no easier by the language problem.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The position regarding itinerant gipsies does not improve and the department are constantly required to ensure that members of this fraternity are kept on the move.

With the co-operation of landowners more sites have been rendered inaccessible but one or two remain in addition to the grass verges on the A.13.

During the year any large scale removals were carried out by the owners of the land, in co-operation with the police and the Council were not called upon to take direct action.

An unauthorised site has been occupied in East Tilbury but this is being dealt with under planning legislation.

The Council's endeavours to provide a caravan site in Fort Road, Tilbury, have not succeeded, planning permission having been refused. An alternative site in Aveley is now under consideration.

During the year the work on the Tilbury Dock Extension brought some twelve caravans occupied by contractors' men into the area. These were situated on the site amidst the most appalling conditions. Subsequently they moved to Tilbury and a planning application has now been approved authorising the use of this site for a period of twelve months in the first place.

The position in Thurrock regarding properly licensed sites is as follows:—

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) No. of cases during the year in which a site licence was granted | 6 |
| (2) Total number of licensed sites | 7 |

Of the seven licensed sites, six are in respect of one caravan only. The remaining one comprises the caravan site at Corringham.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

During the year 1,493 complaints were received from residents within the Urban District. Every effort is made to deal with such complaints on the day of receipt.

DETAILS OF WORK EXECUTED.

Damp remedied	84
Rooms stripped, cleansed, redecorated	2
Plaster repaired	41
Floors repaired	29
Windows repaired, renewed, or extended	59
Stoves repaired (i.e., fireplaces)	9
Repairs to locks and doors, etc.	18
Sashes repaired	16
Staircases repaired	3
Wash-hand basins provided	1
W.C's. repaired	12
W.C. cisterns repaired	14
W.C. cisterns provided	4
New W.C. pedestals provided	2
New sinks provided	1
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	9

Soil or vent pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	2
Drains unstopped or repaired	...	...	29
Gullies repaired or renewed	...	...	9
Inspection chambers repaired or provided	...	...	1
Water services repaired or renewed	...	...	9
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	100
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	58
Walls repaired or renewed	...	...	31
Yards repaired or paved	...	...	2
Dustbins provided	...	...	2
Miscellaneous housing defects	...	...	16
Accumulations removed	...	...	10

SECTION "F"

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1 — INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number in Register (2)	Number of Inspec- tions (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	16	38	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	341	327	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	357	365	—	—

2 — Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were		Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	6	8	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	7	14	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	2	1	—	—	—
Total ...	15	23	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORKERS.

There are two employers of outworkers as defined in Sections 110 and 111 of the Act, in this area.

A register of outworkers resident in the district is kept, the number so registered being 140.

SECTION "G"

SHOPS AND OFFICES

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Shops Act, 1950.

Shops (Early Closing) Days Act, 1965.

Young Persons (Employment) Acts, 1938-64.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

CLOSING ORDERS.

- (1) Grays Thurrock — Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 7 p.m.
Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 9 p.m.

Art needlework Dealers, Bakers, Boot and Shoe Merchants, Butchers, Chemists, China and Glass Merchants, Corn Merchants, Dairymen, Drapers, Furnishers, Gents' Outfitters, Ironmongers and Hardware Merchants, Jewellers, Oil and Colour Merchants, Photographers, Sewing Machine Agents and Stationers.

- (2) North and South Stifford, West and Little Thurrock.
Tobacconists — Weekdays, 9.30 p.m. Saturday, 10 p.m.

Sunday Trading Exemptions.

Parts of Grays (Old High Street from Market Place to Grays Beach).

Photographic requisites.
Sale of articles for bathing or fishing, toys, souvenirs, fancy goods, books, stationery, photographs, reproductions & postcards.

SHOPS ACTS, 1950—1965.

Some 156 visits were carried out resulting in the service of 27 written notices, made up as follows:—

REQUIREMENTS	No. OF INSTANCES
Provision and exhibition of Forms ...	4
Display notice regarding Half Holidays ...	14
Display notice "Record of Hours Worked"	5
Display notice "Abstract of the Shops Act"	4

Complaints and enquiries have been very few during the year but a pamphlet is available to any shopkeeper who is in need of advice on such matters as closing hours.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

This Act came on to the Statute Book on 31st July, 1963. Its object is to ensure that the working conditions in shops and offices are not less favourable than those in factories—in other words it is designed to cater for the “white collar” worker. The Act follows the lines of the Factories Act and lays down requirements regarding registration of premises, health, welfare and safety conditions.

The Minister of Labour is empowered to make regulations regarding registration of premises, provision of first aid equipment, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness and facilities for the drying of clothing.

To date the following Orders have been made and come into operation on the dates mentioned:—

May 1st, 1964 and August 1st, 1964—Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Forms Order, 1964.

May 1st, 1964—Registration of all premises before 31st July, 1964.

August 1st, 1964—Prescribed Dangerous Machines Order, 1964.

August 1st, 1964—Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 (Exemption No. 1) Order, 1964.

December 1st, 1964 and September 1st, 1965—Offices, Shops and Railway Premises First Aid Order, 1964.

June 1st, 1965—Information for Employees Regulations, 1965.

January 1st, 1966—Sanitary Conveniences Regulations, 1964.

January 1st, 1966—Washing Facilities Regulations, 1964.

January 1st, 1966—Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 (Exemption No. 3) Order, 1965.

The provisions regarding overcrowding come into operation on August 1st, 1967.

Registrations and General Inspections:

Premises	Registra- tions dur- ing 1966	Total No. of Registered Premises	First Inspect'ns in 1966
Offices	11	148	62
Retail Shops	36	519	254
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses ...	—	10	1
Catering Establishments & Canteens	3	84	31
Fuel Storage Depots	—	1	—

Total number of inspections and re-inspections during the year was 1,942.

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises.

Class of Premises				No. of Persons Employed
Offices	...	...	...	3,057
Retail Shops	...	...	...	2,800
Wholesale Depts., Warehouses	...	...	...	134
Catering Establishments	...	...	...	566
Canteens	...	...	...	218
Fuel Storage Depots	...	...	...	7
				<hr/>
TOTAL				6,782
				<hr/>
Males				3,243
Females				3,539

Exemptions.

Two applications from the same firm were received for exemptions from requirements of the Act during the year and both were granted. Details are as follows:—

A firm of coal merchants applied for exemption from the requirements to provide sanitary accommodation and washing facilities upon the grounds that only one person was employed and that an arrangement had been entered into with British Rail whereby the facilities at an adjoining railway station could be used.

Lighting.

No regulations have yet been made regarding the lighting of offices and shops.

Heating.

Generally speaking, the temperature in offices and shops should, after the first hour, be not less than 60.8°F. but so far as shops are concerned, this need not be the case if the maintenance of such a temperature is not “reasonably practicable” or would cause deterioration of goods.

During the year the Council instituted legal proceedings as a test case against the proprietor of a shop selling fruit and green-grocery. Heating had been provided but the shop possessed no door with the result that, during the colder weather, the temperature was 44°—54° F.

A plea of “Not Guilty” was entered upon the grounds that the maintenance of a temperature of 60.8°F would lead to deterioration

of the goods. The prosecution countered this by stating (a) a higher temperature was reached during the summer months and (b) shops selling this class of goods existed in which this temperature was maintained seemingly without deterioration of goods.

The Court, however, accepted the defendant's argument and dismissed the case.

One cannot help but wonder whether this temperature limit can be applied to any food shop since the same argument can be advanced in the case of grocery and provision shops—certainly by butchers and fishmongers.

Accidents.

The Act requires that the enforcing authority be notified forthwith of any accident occurring on the premises which

(a) causes the death of a person employed to work on the premises

or

(b) disables any such person for more than three days.

During 1966, twenty-nine accidents were notified and a tabulated statement is produced giving statistical details.

The majority of these accidents were minor in character but four instances are worthy of special mention.

In one instance a warehouse employee was run over by a vehicle entering a builders merchants yard and sustained fatal injuries. An inquest was held and the verdict was "Accidental Death."

In another case a shop assistant slipped on a strawberry which was on the floor behind the counter in a fruiterers shop and sustained a fractured arm.

In a third instance a shop assistant was passing between two counters placed near to each other when she caught her foot, fell and fractured both legs.

One accident involving a food slicing machine was notified—an assistant was cleaning the machine without the guard in position when he sustained a cut finger. This operation was being performed contrary to the firm's standing instructions.

In addition, seven accidents involving brewery staff were notified. These took the form of sprains or strains occurring in the course of deliveries of barrels or crates of beer from vehicles to the cellars of licensed premises. One would have thought that some better method, not involving so much physical handling, could have been devised.

REPORTED ACCIDENTS, 1966

50

Primary cause	Nature of Injury									
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		Fractures and Dislocations	Sprains and Strains	Ampu- tations	Open Wounds and Surface Injury	Bruising, Crushing and Con- cussion	Burns	Multiple Injuries of a Different Nature	Other Injuries	TOTAL
Machinery (power and non-power)		—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Transport		—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Falls of persons		5	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	8
Stepping on or striking against object or person		—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Handling goods (not otherwise specified)		—	7	—	1	1	1	—	—	10
Struck by falling object		—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Fires and explosions		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Due to electricity		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools		—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Not otherwise specified		—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Total		5	9	—	5	8	2	—	—	29

Notices Served.

Details of requirements made under the Act during the year are as follows:—

Requirement	Number
Provide first aid box	26
Provide thermometer	19
Provide or renew wash-hand basin	10
Provide hot water	7
Provide soap and towel	3
Provide adequate sanitary accommodation ...	1
Mark sanitary accommodation for sexes ...	4
Mark washing accommodation for sexes ...	2
Provide handrail	7
Provide adequate ventilation	3
Provide adequate lighting to work areas ...	2
Provide drinking water	1
Provide adequate means of heating	6
Provide facilities for meals	2
Provide seating facilities for staff	1
Cleanse and/or repair floors	6
Cleanse and/or redecorate walls and ceilings ...	4
Repair and/or redecorate walls and ceilings ...	5
Cleanse and/or redecorate W.C.	13
Provide or repair artificial lighting to W.C. compartment	7
Provide intervening ventilated space to W.C. ...	1
Renew W.C. seat	1
Repair W.C. cistern	3
Provide adequate lighting to staircase	7
Repair or renew door	2
Register premises	5
Provide copy of "Abstract of the Act"	26
Guarding of stairs	3
Take measures for prevention of accidents ...	9

SECTION "H"

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS.

There are within the area 14 registered dairies, and licences for the sale of designated milk have also been issued in respect of 128 shop premises and three milk vending machines.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960-63.

Number of licences in force: —

(a)	Dealer's (Prepacked)	for Untreated Milk	16
(b)	„ „ „	Pasteurised Milk	97
(c)	„ „ „	Sterilised Milk	118
(d)	„ „ „	Ultra Heat Treated Milk	6
(e)	Dealer's (Pasteuriser's)	... ..	1
(f)	Dealer's (Untreated)	... ..	2

Pasteurising Plants.

There is only one pasteurising plant in the area—a H.T.S.T. type with a capacity of 1,500 G.P.H.

Samples are regularly taken from this plant and all phosphatase tests have proved satisfactory.

MILK SAMPLES.

(a) *Bacteriological.*

The following tables show the number of samples taken and the results obtained: —

GRADE	No. Taken	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test			Turbidity Test		Plate Count	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Void	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	436	436	—	427	2	7	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	18	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—
Untreated	13	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ultra Heat Treated	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

It is to be noted that, of the 468 samples of designated milk taken 7 failed the methylene blue test.

Milk Samples which failed the appropriate tests during 1966.

Failure	Designation			Samples from	
	Past.	Ster.	Un- treated	Plants within the area	Plants outside the area
Methylene Blue Test	7	—	—	—	7
Phosphatase Test	—	—	—	—	—

Of the 7 unsatisfactory samples, 4 were from vending machines and 3 from sealed vessels all of which were bottled or cartoned at premises outside Thurrock.

The number of vending machines in the area is four. Although they have their uses and meet a public need, experience has shown that an unduly high proportion of samples taken from them fail the methylene blue test. I think that this is due, in the main, to lack of a quick turnover and failure to rotate the stock which is in the machine.

I am informed that the two machines which have given rise to unsatisfactory samples are shortly to be removed.

So far as samples from sealed vessels are concerned, all were from bottles filled at premises outside Thurrock. Although the code on the cap establishes the date of processing and bottling, it does not establish the date of delivery to the retailer so that it is not possible to determine with any degree of certainty at whose door the blame lies.

(b) *Biological.*

There are 18 milk-producing farms in the area and every effort is made to sample the milk from each farm twice yearly. During the year 34 samples were taken for submission to the biological test with a view to determining the presence or otherwise of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus.

Two of these samples were reported to be unsatisfactory—one showed the presence of M. Tuberculosis and the other Brucella Abortus. It is interesting to note that the type of tuberculosis was of human origin and enquiries involved one of the farm staff who was subsequently admitted to a chest hospital. The circumstances were reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food who conducted an investigation on the farm. Since all the milk was pasteurised no risk to public health existed.

The brucella abortus was from a local farm with a large milking herd the milk from which was sold as "Untreated." Arrangements were made for all the milk to be pasteurised and individual samples (53) were taken from each cow. One sample was found to be positive on culture and this animal was removed from the herd.

A second animal was shown to be positive to the Ring Test but on culture it was found to be negative.

The fact that a sample of milk from an animal can be positive to the Ring Test yet negative on culture raises a problem in taking future bulk samples of milk from this herd. If the milk from the affected animal is included, a positive Ring Test is almost certain to follow. It is necessary therefore, when taking bulk samples, to omit the milk from the animal known to be positive in order to avoid misleading results.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the area and they are in regular use. The Construction Regulations apply to both these premises.

KNACKERS' YARDS.

There are no licensed Knackers' Yards in the area.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed	2505	55	22	8412	3666	—
Number inspected						
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	9	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	413	23	—	934	338	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	16.56	41.82	Nil	11.09	9.25	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	75	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2.19	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted for treat- ment by refrigeration ...	14	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Cysticercosis	0.56	—	—	—	—	—

It will be noted that the total number of animals slaughtered during the year was 14,760 an increase of 1.2% over 1965, due largely to an increase in the number of pigs killed.

It is pleasing to record that every animal slaughtered has been inspected, although this involves a seven-day week.

The amount of tuberculosis found in bovines is now utterly negligible and where this is found, the circumstances are reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The incidence of *Cysticercus Bovis* shows the lowest figure since 1961.

With the coming into operation of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, all carcasses are now stamped by the Inspector and the Council have continued the principle of making no charge for this service.

MEAT CONDEMNED.

The weight of meat condemned in the slaughterhouses during the year amounts to 10,792 lbs.

MEAT INSPECTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1966.

These regulations were made on 22nd July, 1966, and came into operation on 1st August, 1966.

The most important provision was one which, for the first time, enabled local authorities to control the hours of slaughter in slaughterhouses.

The Council lost no time in consulting the occupiers of both slaughterhouses and in determining the hours of slaughter as follows:—

Mondays to Fridays: Not more than 10 hours each day but in any case slaughtering is to be completed by 6 p.m.

In the case of the slaughterhouse at South Ockendon, slaughtering on Saturdays and Sundays was prohibited but in the case of the slaughterhouse at West Thurrock, slaughtering was permitted on Saturdays until 12 noon.

These restrictions are not to apply in the following circumstances:—

- (1) During the 21 days preceding Christmas Day.
- (2) In the case of emergency slaughter, i.e., the slaughter of an animal by virtue of injury or disease.

SLAUGHTERMEN.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

A register of all licensed slaughtermen is kept in accordance with the above Act and the number so licensed is 11.

UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED.

Commodity			cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
254 Tins Meat	Blown		5	1	4	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
1677 „ Fruit	„	„	19	2	5	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
948 „ Vegetables	„	„	7	1	7	13
500 „ Tomatoes	„	„	4	3	13	12
255 „ Fish	„	„	1	—	5	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
257 „ Milk Pudding	„	„	2	1	3	2
90 „ Milk	„	„	—	1	17	8
222 „ Milk	„	„				
56 „ Cream	„	„	—	—	22	6
22 „ Soup	„	„	—	—	14	9
27 „ Preserves	„	„	—	1	8	6
52 „ Fruit Juice	„	„	—	1	1	9
6 „ Tomato	„	„	—	—	6	4
3 „ Baby Food	„	„	—	—	—	12
11 „ Pease Pudding	„	„	—	—	9	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
10 „ Chicken	„	„	—	1	12	—
11 „ Spaghetti	„	„	—	—	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
8 Pkts. Cereals	Damaged		—	—	7	12
2 Tins Soft Drinks	Blown, Damaged	23 fluid ozs.				
2 „ Sago	Damaged					
2 „ Cooked Meat	Deteriorated and Decomposed		—	—	18	—
2 „ Syrup	Damaged		—	—	2	—
1 Jar Preserves	„		—	—	—	11
15 Jars Gerkins	„		—	1	4	—
3 Botts. Fruit Juice	„		—	—	4	2
1 Bott. Tomato Juice	„		—	—	1	13
1 Box Prawns	Decomposed		—	—	20	—
1 „ Pigs' Spleens	„		—	1	—	—
8 Pkts. Dates	Damaged		—	—	12	—
Imported Lamb	Decomposed		1	1	27	—
Imported Rabbits	„		1	1	5	—
Imp. Pigs' Kidneys	„		1	1	—	—
Imp. Lambs' Hearts	„		—	1	12	—
Imp. Lambs' Livers	„		—	—	8	12
Frozen Oxtails	„		—	—	10	—
Ox Tongues	„		1	2	—	—
Calves' Kidneys	Tyrosin Deposits		—	1	8	—
Cooked Meat	Refrigerator breakdown		2	—	—	1
Pork	„	„	6	1	8	—
Lamb	„	„	—	3	18	—
Liver	Possible Contamination		—	—	15	—
Fresh Milk	„	„				
		18 pints				
TOTAL			66	—	7	15 $\frac{1}{4}$

All condemned food is collected by the department and disposed of on the Council's Refuse Tip.

ICE-CREAM SAMPLES.

314 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, with the following results:

<i>Ministry of Health's Provisional Grade</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
Grade I	262
Grade II	18
Grade III	14
Grade IV	20

4 ice lolly samples were taken and all were satisfactory.

The standard of ice-cream sold within the area throughout the year is set out below:—

Producer	Total Samples	I	II	III	IV
A	132	123	6	3	—
B	110	100	6	3	1
C	25	12	—	2	11
*D	18	11	2	1	4
E	10	3	3	1	3
F	5	4	—	—	1
G	3	1	—	2	—
H	2	2	—	—	—
I	2	2	—	—	—
J	2	1	—	1	—
K	2	1	—	1	—
L	1	1	—	—	—
M	1	1	—	—	—
N	1	—	1	—	—
	314	262	18	14	20

*Producer "D" is situated within the Urban District. The remaining producers manufacture outside the area but retail the supplies within. The 18 samples from the Thurrock producer came within the following categories:—

Percentage of Grade I samples	61.1 %
„ „ Grade I and II samples...	72.3 %
„ „ Grade III samples	5.5 %
„ „ Grade IV samples	22.2 %

This is a regrettable departure from the recommended standard whereby 50% of samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% should fall into Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20% should fall into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

The overall picture regarding the quality of ice cream is far from satisfactory, the percentage of Grade 4 samples being 6.3—the highest for many years. Of the 20 unsatisfactory samples 16 were manufactured outside Thurrock and all but one were loose. On the other hand slightly over half were from the same premises but an investigation showed that the source of trouble was probably from outside this area. The remaining 4 unsatisfactory samples were from a local manufacturer and a percentage of 22.2 does not reflect credit upon the establishment. I am quite sure that some makers and retailers of ice cream still do not appreciate the need for scrupulous cleanliness and proper sterilisation at all stages of production and handling.

In the absence of a legal bacteriological standard for ice cream effective action is difficult since inspection does not always reveal a breach of the regulations. It seems to me that the time has come for such a standard, together with a system of licensing whereby, say, three consecutive Grade 4 samples could lead to revocation being considered.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

During 1966 a total of 3,070 visits and revisits were made to food shops, cafes, school and factory canteens.

Details of requirements made under the Regulations are as follows: —

REQUIREMENTS	NUMBER
Provide "Wash Your Hands" Notices	7
Refrain from smoking	1
Cleanse or renew equipment	6
Provide or renew sink	2
Cleanse and/or redecorate food rooms	29
Protect food from risk of contamination	6
Repair or renew floor covering	4
Provide impervious surface to work tables	1
Provide waterproof dressings and/or antiseptics in first aid box	6
Cleanse and/or repair refrigerator	1
Provide nailbrush, soap and towel	4
Repair or renew wall tiles	1
Provide waste food bins	4
Redecorate cellar	3
Redecorate premises	1
Provide intervening ventilated space	1
Repair walls and ceilings	4

REQUIREMENTS					NUMBER
Provide clothing accommodation	...	...	...	...	2
Provide ventilation	...	...	...	...	3
Renew W.C. pedestal	...	...	...	...	1
Remedy dampness	...	...	...	...	2
Redecorate sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	2
Provide screens	...	...	...	...	1
Provide hot water	...	...	...	...	2
Provide washing facilities	...	...	...	...	1
Provide first aid box	...	...	...	...	1
Provide food storage facilities	...	...	...	...	1
Other Regulations affecting Food Premises:—					
Provide or renew dustbins	...	...	...	...	2
Provide W.C.	...	...	...	...	1
Repair and/or cleanse yard surface	...	...	...	...	4
Repair and/or cleanse drainage system	...	...	...	...	1
Remove accumulations	...	...	...	...	5
Cease burning rubbish	...	...	...	...	1
Overhaul Gutters	...	...	...	...	1
Secure windows	...	...	...	...	1

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKETS, STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966.

These regulations come into force on 1st January, 1967, and apply to market stalls, vehicles used for retailing food and delivery vehicles.

They require stalls and vehicles to be kept in good repair and provided with washing facilities (including hot and cold water). The handling and wrapping of food must be carried out under cleanly conditions and certain requirements for the storage of meat pies, cooked ham, etc., are laid down.

Stalls and vehicles selling prepacked food, together with bread delivery vans are exempted from the requirements regarding washing facilities. Exemptions from some of the requirements are made in the case of fruiterers and greengrocers.

Two markets exist in Thurrock—one at Tilbury at which no food is sold, the other in Grays.

The site of the market in Grays is partly controlled by the Council and partly in private ownership.

The number of stalls selling food is thirteen and involves fruit and greengrocery, shell fish, fish and chips, butchers' meat, provisions and confectionery, together with a snack bar.

So far as the Council's section is concerned, they have decided to provide a uniform type of stall—covered at the back, sides and top—and the annual licence issued to each stallholder requires, among other things, that the regulations shall be complied with.

Some difficulty is anticipated in securing compliance, especially in the case of fruiterers and greengrocers, but it is hoped that persuasion will be successful rather than resorting to legal procedure.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—Section 16.

The records show that there were 427 premises registered for the manufacture or preservation of food, or sale of ice cream at the year's end.

These figures include 30 premises registered under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, for the preparation of potted shrimps.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Nineteen complaints were received during the year involving foreign bodies in food, mouldy pies, etc.

Three prosecutions were instituted during the year, all of which were successful. They refer to mouldy meat pies and jam puffs.

In the remaining cases informal action was taken without recourse to legal proceedings. This involved a warning letter from the Clerk to the Council.

One is constantly surprised at the various foreign bodies found in food. These include nails, splinters of wood or wire and in one instance part of a saw blade 8 inches in length. This suggests lack of proper supervision of machinery or processes at food manufacturers' premises.

In the case of perishable foods, I feel that this type of complaint will continue until retailers employ proper stock rotation and code their goods in such a manner as will prevent the sale of stale goods.

In addition to foreign bodies or mouldy food, five complaints were received regarding milk bottles which had been improperly cleansed and in one case successful legal proceedings were instituted against the dairyman. Warning letters were sent in the remaining four instances.

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963.

No egg pasteurisation plants exist in the area.

Report of the Public Analyst

During the year 1966, 360 articles of food and drugs were examined. Of these 75 were taken formally, 273 informally, and 12 were submitted as complaints.

The number adulterated or about which some comment was made was 21. The incidence of these criticisms may be classified as follows:—

		<i>Number of samples examined</i>	<i>Number of samples adulterated, etc.</i>
Milk	...	50	1
Other Foods	...	194	18
Drugs	...	47	2

A sample of milk contained 2.15 per cent of fat and 8.68 per cent of solids not fat, and, therefore, had the composition of milk which was at least 28 per cent deficient in fat, according to the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939.

A complaint was received regarding the burnt taste of some Full Cream Condensed Sweetened Milk. The complaint milk was submitted together with an unopened can, and on opening the can there was a distinct odour of cow parsley, due doubtless to the herd having eaten cow parsley.

A piece of toast contained white patches consisting of chalk mixed with fat and flour, due to the bread having been improperly made.

Another piece of bread was contaminated with gear oil, whilst a portion of bread and butter was contaminated with a black substance which proved to be "Candystik" mastic used on the drive belts to prevent slipping. It was suggested that the bakers' attention should be drawn to the fact that the machinery should be so placed that nothing falling from the shafting could fall into the dough mixers.

A small sample of biscuit flour contained 1 live larva, 2 bristles, 2 hairs, part of an insect, and dirt, and should never have been sold in this condition.

The filling of some "Cream Buns" consisted of imitation cream and not cream.

Some cheese biscuits were incorrectly labelled. The ingredients listed "shortening" and "leavening" which should have been "edible fat" and "baking powder." These biscuits had presumably been packed for the American market.

A baby food described as "High Protein Cereal for Baby" contained soya flour as the principal ingredient. Soya is a legume and not a cereal, and the label of this product was, therefore, incorrect.

A slice of corned beef contained lubricating oil and iron, doubtless derived from oil dropping from some part of the machinery.

A complaint was received regarding a tin of pork luncheon meat suspected of causing diarrhoea. Examination showed the presence of approximately 10,000,000 streptococci per gram. As they were in almost pure culture throughout the meat and no spore-forming bacteria were present it was thought the can had been contaminated with cooling water, and the fault was not due to improper sterilisation.

Some pork sausages contained a small piece of skin with adherent bristles, and it was suggested that the manufacturers should be warned to be more careful about trimming the material used. Some beef sausages contained 220 parts per million of sulphur dioxide which had not been declared, thus contravening the Preservatives Regulations.

A steak and kidney pie contained a blow fly, and from its appearance and from the absence of enzymes in the interior of the fly, it was considered that it had been cooked in the meat. Legal action was taken and the defendants pleaded guilty.

Some canned octopus on a skewer with soy sauce and sugar, failed to declare the ingredients of the soy sauce.

Some smoked salmon mayonnaise contained 290 parts per million of benzoic acid, a preservative not permitted in this product, and, although it purported to disclose the ingredients, it failed to declare the presence of the preservative.

Some fresh pears contained a whitish deposit near the area of the calyx which consisted of lead arsenate. The whole fruit contained 2.9 parts per million of lead and 0.8 parts per million of arsenic.

A raspberry flavouring was obviously extremely old stock and as a result contained a deposit formed by the interaction of the colouring matter and some of the flavouring ingredients.

Some chocolate dinner mints were suspected of causing diarrhoea and sickness. They possessed a strong flavour of coconut oil, and the manufacturers agreed and stated that this was due to oxidation of the peppermint oil, and that this was characteristic of the deterioration which takes place after six months. It was suggested that the containers sold to shopkeepers should be marked accordingly.

The label of some Rose Hip Syrup, which is a food as well as a drug carried no proper disclosure of ingredients as required by the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941, or by the Labelling of Food Order, 1953.

A bottle of calamine lotion was stated to contain 8 per cent of calamine, but only 2.94 per cent could be detected.

Three complaints were received about foods, but no justification was found for these, showing that it may be to the advantage of food manufacturers to invite complainants to submit their complaints to the Local Authority rather than to attempt to appease them themselves.

NEW LEGAL MATTERS.

The Butter Regulations 1966, come into operation in September, 1967. They supersede the Butter and Margarine Regulations 1955, in so far as these apply to butter. They specify compositional requirements regulating the amount of milk fat, curd, salt, and moisture, in salted and unsalted butter, and specify requirements for the labelling and advertisement of butter. The Regulations do not, however, apply to butter sold for export, or to caterers or manufacturers.

The Cheese (Amendment) Regulations, 1966, come into force on the 1st February, 1967. They redefine "compound products" containing 10 per cent or more Cheese, and require processed cheese to be described by its varietal name, to comply with the compositional standards prescribed for the variety, or with the principal regulations, and add to the varieties of cheese subject to the fat and moisture control.

The Antioxidant in Food Regulations, 1966, came into operation on 9th December, 1966. These Regulations ban the use of antioxidants in infant foods. They permit the use of a new antioxidant for use on apples and pears and lay down specifications of purity for all antioxidants.

The Salad Cream Regulations, 1966, came into force in September, 1966. They include mayonnaise as salad cream and regulate the amount of vegetable oil and egg yolk solids contained in such creams. Requirements are also prescribed for the labelling and advertisement of salad cream, but the Regulations do not apply to salad cream for export or catering.

The Mineral Hydrocarbons in Food Regulations, 1966, came into force on the 27th August, 1966. The chief amendment to these Regulations lies in the compositional control of the purity of hydrocarbons used for food purposes. These Regulations can be enforced for foods manufactured in this country, but offer little control for imported products.

The revised Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1966, will come into operation on the 26th June, 1967. They revise the list of colouring matters which may be added to food sold for human

consumption, and prohibit or limit the use of such colouring matters in certain named foods, especially fresh meat, fruit or vegetables. They also regulate the amount of arsenic, lead, and copper contained not only in permitted colouring matters but also in colouring compounds.

The revised proposed Regulations for Fish and Meat spreadable products will increase the quality of fish and meat spreads considerably and will prevent evasion of quality, which the public are entitled to expect, should they come into force.

The Food Standards Committee Report on Claims and Misleading Descriptions dealt with claims on labels and in advertisements and also covered misleading descriptions, but the extent to which it will be possible to control advertising ingenuity remains to be seen.

The Food Additives and contaminants Committee issued a Report on the use of Cyclamates and concluded that the ingestion of cyclamates is unlikely to present any hazard to health, though they may have a laxative effect if consumed in substantial amounts.

The Food Additives and Contaminants Committee Report also issued a Report on Solvents in foods. The Committee considered 8 of the best known solvents would satisfy the needs of the food trade, and proposed only these should be permitted.

The second Report by the Committee on Safety of Drugs was issued in May, 1966, and made suggestions for the safer use of drugs by stricter precautions over the control of new drugs, and the sale and labelling of medicines generally.

Article	Number samples examined				Number adulterated etc.			
	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total
Beverages	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Biscuits	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
Bread	—	1	3	4	—	—	3	3
Cakes	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	1
Cereal—semolina	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Coconut, dessicated	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
COFFEE								
Extract	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Chicory essence	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Confectionery	—	9	1	10	—	—	1	1
Cream	—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—
DESSERTS								
Mousse	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Powder	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
DIETETIC FOODS								
Biscuits	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Chocolate	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Saccharin	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
EDIBLE FATS								
Butter	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Dripping	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Lard	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Margarine	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Suet	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
FISH								
Canned	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
Cakes	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Frozen	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Smoked Salmon	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Salmon Mayonnaise	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
Paste	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Flavouring essence	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
Carried Forward	—	53	5	58	—	5	4	9

Article	Number samples examined				Number adulterated etc.			
	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total
Brought Forward	—	53	5	58	—	5	4	9
FLOUR								
Biscuit flour	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
Cornflour	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Pea flour	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Plain flour	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Self-Raising flour	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
FRUIT								
Dried	—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—
Fresh	—	42	—	42	—	1	—	1
Juice	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Peel	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pie filling	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ginger in Syrup	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Honey with Vitamins	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Ice Lolly	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Infant Foods	—	4	—	4	—	1	—	1
Jelly	—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—
MEAT PRODUCTS								
Bacon	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Black Pudding	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Canned Meats	—	5	2	7	—	—	2	2
Chicken Mock Roll	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Chicken Curry	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Minced Beef	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Pastes	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Paté	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pies	—	3	1	4	—	—	1	1
Pork Brawn	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Rissoles	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Veal Curry	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sausages	—	11	—	11	—	2	—	2
MILK	50	—	—	50	1	—	—	1
Condensed	—	2	1	3	—	—	1	1
Dried	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Evaporated	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Carried Forward	50	174	11	235	1	9	9	19

Article	Number samples examined				Number adulterated etc.			
	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total
Brought Forward	50	174	11	235	1	9	9	19
Mustard	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Pickles	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Preserves	—	4	1	5	—	—	—	—
Salad Cream and Dressings	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Sauces	—	6	—	6	—	—	—	—
Sauce Mix	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
SOFT DRINKS								
Lemon	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Lemon—Lime	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Orange	—	6	—	6	—	—	—	—
SPICES								
Curry	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Ginger	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pickling Spice	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
SPIRITS								
Brandy	5	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Gin	5	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Rum	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Vodka	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Whisky	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	—
SPREADS								
Savoury	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Sweet	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
SUGARS								
Caster	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Glucose	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Tomatoes—fresh	—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—
VEGETABLES								
Baked Beans	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dried	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Fresh	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
WINE								
Port	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sherry	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Carried Forward	75	224	12	311	1	9	9	19

Article	Number samples examined				Number adulterated etc.			
	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total	Formal	Informal	Complaint	Total
Brought Forward	75	224	12	311	1	9	9	19
Yeast—dried	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
DRUGS								
Allergy Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Analgesic Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Antacid Tablets	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Aspirin Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Balsam	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Barbiturate Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Bisurated Magnesia	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Bronchial Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Borax and Honey	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cold Relief Tablets	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cold Relief Powders	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cough Mixture	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea Mixture	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
Diuretic Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Energy Food	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Expectorant	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Gee's Linctus	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Honey, Glycerin & Lemon Pastilles	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Health Salts	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Laxative Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Lung Syrup	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Mouth Jelly	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pain Relief Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Psychotic Condition Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Rose Hip Syrup	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	1
Skin Lotion	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
Stomach Mixture	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Throat Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Tonic	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Travel Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Vitamin Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Total	75	273	12	360	1	11	9	21

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

Pork Luncheon Meat:	Facts reported to Ministry of Health who are investigating matters through the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in the country of origin.
Smoked Salmon Mayonnaise:	Manufacturers state this commodity was made for their home market and was exported to this country in error. All stocks being withdrawn from sale.
Rose Hip Syrup:	Manufacturers altering label.
Beef Sausages:	Retailers now displaying notice re preservative.
Caladryl:	Attention of dispensing chemist drawn to the necessity to agitate contents of stock bottle before serving from same.
Pork Sausages:	Attention of manufacturers drawn to public Analyst's findings.
Cream Buns:	Retailer now displaying notice re cream.
Corned Beef:	Attention of importers drawn to Analyst's findings, they have undertaken to take up the matter with the processors in the Argentine.
Milk:	Severe warning letter to cafe proprietor. Follow-up sample satisfactory.
Raspberry Flavouring:	Remainder of stock surrendered by retailer.
Cheese Biscuits:	Matter taken up with manufacturers.
Toast:	Attention of baker drawn to Analyst's findings.
Pears:	Unable to ascertain with certainty the country of origin. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food informed of Public Analyst's findings.
Bread:	Severe warning letter to Bakers.
Bread & Butter:	Warning letter to Bakers.
High Protein Baby Cereal:	Manufacturers have undertaken to alter label.
Biscuit Flour:	Flour returned to suppliers by Baker.
Chocolate Mints:	Informed local authority in whose area mints were bought; and manufacturers, who have arranged for inspection of stock and withdrawal of old stock.
Condensed Milk:	Retailer has withdrawn remainder of consignment from sale.
Canned Steak & Kidney Pie:	Manufacturers prosecuted—Fined £10.